## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE AT GREENEVILLE

KATERI LYNNE DAHL,
Plaintiff,

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VS.

\* CASE NO. \* 2:22-CV-00072-KAC-CRW

CHIEF KARL TURNER, in his individual capacity only; OFFICER JOHN DOES 1-3, in their individual capacities only; and CITY OF JOHNSON CITY,

Defendants.

\*

DEPOSITION OF

## JAMES "JIM" TALLMADGE

(Taken November 15, 2023)

## APPEARANCES:

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ALEXIS I. TAHINCI

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BY PHONE: HUGH EASTWOOD

KAT DAHL

- 1 | O. How would that come about?
- A. The officer knowing about the warrant and knowing a likely location might take it upon himself or herself to go and do something like that.
  - Q. If an officer were going to do that, would you expect them to first reach out to the investigator who secured the warrant?
- 8 A. Not necessarily.

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- 9 Q. Okay. Why or why not?
- 10 A. If there was very little known about it, then yes. But if
  11 the investigator had already presented some of that
  12 information and told us about the existence of the
  13 warrant, then no, not necessarily.
- Q. Okay. Was it common for investigators to let patrol know about the existence of a warrant through a BOLO?
- 16 A. Yes, that is one way that they do it.
- 17 Q. Is that a common practice?
- 18 | A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What would you expect to see in the BOLO in that 20 situation?
- A. A picture of the subject of the warrant, their personal information, name, date of birth, descriptors, height, weight, things like that, any possible known locations where they might be found, and the charge, of course, itself. And then possibly if there was any risk involved

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- Q. Hypothetically, if a BOLO was issued that did not indicate the charge, but simply said the indictment is up in records or something to that effect, would you expect an officer to go to records and view the indictment prior to attempting to serve the warrant?
- A. Prior to attempting to serve it? Yes, I would expect that person to at least gather some information on it in one way or another.
- 12 | Q. And why is that important?

- A. Well, for the reasons I explained already, the safety issue, any special knowledge that might be needed regarding the person or the warrant itself.
- Q. Is going to a wanted individual's residence, when the individual presumably does not know that they are wanted, a best practice for serving an arrest warrant?
- MR. HERRIN: Object to the form of the question.
  - Q. And that's in your training and experience, would you -hypothetically, if there is a wanted individual with a
    sealed federal indictment, would the first step in finding
    that person be going to their residence?
  - A. I don't know that there is a best practice because each situation is different. I wouldn't -- I wouldn't say that

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- individual, Sean Williams, with the person who had the reinforced steel walls and door?
  - A. Yes.

- 4 Q. You understood that to be the same person?
- 5 | A. Yes.
- 6 Q. In roll call on May 5th, would you have discussed this 7 BOLO?
- 8 | A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Would you have told the officers there at roll call about the steel plates?
- 11 A. I did not tell them. I did not personally discuss the BOLO. It was discussed, pardon me.
- 13 | Q. Who would have discussed it?
- 14 A. Investigator Sparks came to the roll call that night.
- 15 | Q. Okay. Tell me about that.
- A. He came to roll call, which is standard practice for our investigators when they're working evening shift, and he passed on the information about the federal indictment at that time, the charges, and he also mentioned that the apartment had been fortified in that way.
- 21 | Q. Did he say anything else about Sean Williams?
- 22 A. I don't recall.
- Q. Did he say anything about Sean Williams being suspected of other crimes?
- 25 A. I don't recall if he did or not.

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- other side of the door saying while you were there.
- A. I remember asking if the person behind the door -- if that was Sean Williams. He said no, he was not, that he was just a roommate. And he asked what was -- what was going on, what the nature of our business was there. And I told the person through the door that we would not discuss that with anyone but Sean Williams.
- Q. How long were you there at the apartment that night?
- A. To the best of my memory, approximately 20 minutes, I think.
- Q. During that 20 minutes, was the conversation essentially just what you relayed or were there other -- other statements made?
- 14 A. By which -- which of us?
- $\parallel$  Q. Well, by either side.

A. Either side. My stance, our stance, remained the same, that we wanted to speak to Sean Williams and that we would not discuss our reason for being there with anyone other than Sean Williams. We did indicate that the information was of a personal nature. The person behind the door continued to ask and did actually say -- go back and forth a couple of times and say, well, I am Sean Williams, you can go ahead. And I said, no, I'm still not going to have this discussion through a closed door with no window that I can see. I said, if you're willing to come out so we

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